

## Editorial

## AP-SMART — A regional initiative with an international impact

**AP-SMART and APKASS—a continuum of regional leadership**

APKASS (Asia-Pacific Knee, Arthroscopy and Sports Medicine Society) is a new regional society evolved from APOSSM (Asia Pacific Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine) which was founded in 1995 in Hong Kong. In line with the international trends of development in bringing together the disciplines of arthroscopy, knee surgery and orthopaedic sport medicine in one entity, and with the emergence of international body such as ISAKOS and regional body such as ESSKA, the membership of APOSSM considered this is an appropriate time to evolve into a new entity of APKASS, in late 2011.

The official journal of APOSSM was SMARTT, published by BMC since 2009. This new journal which carries the mission of the new society, while retaining the iconic “smart” logo was finally designed as *AP-SMART* (*Asia-Pacific Journal of Sports Medicine, Arthroscopy, Rehabilitation and Technology*).

We proudly present this inaugural issue of *AP-SMART* as a tribute to the birth of this new regional society and our commitment to promote the science and practice of sport medicine with specific reference to the sub-specialties enshrined in our Society. The legacy of *SMARTT* will be documented in the web site of APKASS and readers are welcome to take reference of all the published articles of *SMARTT* in their citation.

**AP-SMART—a new paradigm for interdisciplinary exchanges**

*AP-SMART* is an open access, peer-reviewed, online journal published by Elsevier. It aims to bring major improvements in the web design and content layout to trigger active and fruitful interactions among readers and editorial team.

This new journal encourages and facilitates academic exchanges from different cultural, social, economic and ethnic perspectives, allowing unique research in fields related to the journal to be shared around the world. The Editorial Board of *AP-SMART* has re-constituted to include talents around the world in various sub-specialties sections and we have also expanded the board of reviewers from the various disciplines to aim at a professional and expedient review process. Key opinion leaders are invited to initiate the launch of *AP-SMART*

with inspiring review articles in the main section of the discipline. With an expert editorial team, we present quality research that reaches a wide readership amongst professionals working in different disciplines. By bringing together research from the fields of sports medicine, arthroscopy, rehabilitation, therapy and technology, which may previously have been found in a range of journals, we hope to provide a single home for the cross-fertilization of ideas. We also aim to promote collaboration amongst academic institutions, industrial and corporate research facilities to support integration for new technology and clinical applications.

Apart from being the official journal of APKASS, *AP-SMART* is affiliated with the Japanese Orthopaedic Society for Knee Surgery Arthroscopy and Sports Medicine (JOSKAS). We hope that these strong links and support from authors will help to inspire clinicians, practitioners, scientists and engineers to work towards a common goal to improve the quality of life in the international community.

In order to cover all of the essential topics in disciplines related to the journal, *AP-SMART* will consider manuscripts on sports science, exercise physiology, sports nutrition, sports psychology, sports medicine, arthroscopic surgery, sports, orthopaedic and computational biomechanics, manual therapy, physical therapy, musculoskeletal rehabilitation, biomedical devices and technology and sports equipment technology.

**AP-SMART—an appeal to the international community**

In the enormous publishing market, plentiful good articles cannot find their way to an open access channel with credibility and expediency. *AP-SMART* will be your ideal choice!

Timely publication and high visibility are two important features of this journal that makes it different from other traditional journals. Being an open access journal ensures rapid and efficient communication of research findings for the benefits of science, medicine and the general public. Authors can be assured their work is disseminated to the widest possible audience.

Articles submitted to *AP-SMART* will be published quickly and continuously online once accepted after the peer-review process, avoiding the delays commonly found in traditional journals in which submitted and accepted papers may have to wait for publication until enough articles have been collected for a particular issue. Two reviewers will be assigned for each

submission, and reviewers will have up to three weeks to review the submitted article. After the receipt of the recommendation from the reviewers, the decision on whether to accept, reject or request major/minor revisions will be made by Co-Editors-in-Chief. The review time will be monitored by the Editorial Board to make it reasonably short for this journal.

We wish to recommend AP-SMART as your destination for scholarly exchange in the disciplines of arthroscopy, orthopaedic sports medicine, rehabilitation and technology.

### **Conflicts of interest**

The authors declare that they have no financial or non-financial conflicts of interest related to the subject matter discussed in the manuscript.

Kai-Ming Chan, Editor-in-Chief\*

*Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Prince of Wales Hospital, Shatin, Hong Kong*

Masahiro Kurosaka, Editor-in-Chief

*Kobe University School of Medicine, Japan*

\*Corresponding author.

*E-mail address:* [kaimingchan@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:kaimingchan@cuhk.edu.hk) (K.M. Chan)

24 November 2013